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SUTTER CITY MEN CONVICTED OF THREATENING FORCE UPON BLACK STUDENTS OVER A PERIOD OF MONTHS TO PREVENT THE BLACK STUDENTS FROM ATTENDING A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott and FBI Special Agent in Charge Drew Parenti announced today that JARED ORESTE GIAMPAOLI, 20, and STEVEN FOSTER LITTLE, 19, of Sutter, California, each pled guilty today as charged with using threats of force to willfully intimidate and interfere with the rights of black public school students to attend school in violation of Section 245 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

The cases are the product of extensive investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Sutter County Sheriff's Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who is prosecuting the cases, GIAMPAOLI and FOSTER-LITTLE admitted that from late August 2004 through September 2004, GIAMPAOLI and FOSTER-LITTLE, and their associates intimidated and threatened students at Butte View Continuation and High School by calling students of color "nigger" and challenging said students to fight. The black male students who started school in 2004 were intimidated by GIAMPAOLI, FOSTER-LITTLE, and their associates by the September 11, 2004 racially motivated vandalism. Due to the threats, intimidation, and harassment suffered by two black students for the 2004-2005 school year, said black students did not continue attending the Butte View Continuation and High School. The defendants' illicit conduct culminated on September 11, 2004 when GIAMPAOLI and FOSTER-LITTLE painted a 20 foot square swastika and "white power" symbols at the only entrance to Butte View High School as threats of force against the black students and to intimidate the black students from attending the high school.

Pursuant to a plea agreement with the United States, each defendant pled guilty before United States Magistrate Judge Peter A. Nowinski. At the hearing, Judge Nowinski pointed out that the court was not bound by any recommendations set forth in the plea agreement. Also during the hearing, each defendant and counsel for the United States acknowledged to the court that preliminary review of the United States Sentencing Guidelines indicated a sentence of incarceration was warranted for each defendant's offense of conviction. Nevertheless, in the plea agreement the United States stipulated that "if the U.S. Probation Office recommends a sentence of home detention or halfway house confinement, then the government agrees to forego seeking a sentence of imprisonment."

After receipt of each defendant's plea of guilty, Judge Nowinski released each defendant

with federal supervision conditions. Thereafter, each defendant was directed to the United States Marshal for booking procedures. The hearing for imposition of judgment and sentence is set for December 8, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. As convicted under the misdemeanor charges, each defendant faces up to one year of federal incarceration, a one year additional term of supervised release, restitution, and a fine of up to \$100,000.

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